

Comparing 1

comparatives with *-er* and *more*

A What is the difference between these things? Write a sentence about each pair using an adjective from the box with *-er* or *more*.

intelligent (loud) dangerous precious big easy sweet



Example:

a shout and a whisper

A shout is louder than a whisper.

1 diamonds and pearls

2 a mountain and a hill

3 people and monkeys

4 phoning and writing a letter

5 chocolate and fruit

6 a lion and a cat



B What do the verbs in *italics* mean? Complete each sentence using an adjective from the box with *-er* or *more*.

good/bad expensive/cheap hot/cold (senior) junior big/small

Example:

promote: If someone is promoted, they become more senior.

1 *demote*: If someone is demoted, they become _____

2 *heat up*: If something heats up, it gets _____

3 *cool down*: If something cools down, it gets _____

4 *improve*: If something improves, it gets _____

5 *deteriorate*: If something deteriorates, it gets _____

6 *go up*: If the price goes up, it gets _____

7 *go down*: If the price goes down, it gets _____

8 *expand*: If something expands, it gets _____

9 *shrink*: If something shrinks, it gets _____

PHOTOCOPIABLE



9

You must decide if the word

- 1 adds *-er* (high → higher)
- 2 doubles the final consonant (big → bigger)
- 3 changes *y* to *i* (pretty → prettier)
- 4 adds *more* (precious → more precious)
- 5 is irregular (far → further)

bored cheap flat pleased noisy funny sad solid comfortable thin
good short lazy expensive bad long kind easy
fragile surprising wet intelligent dangerous

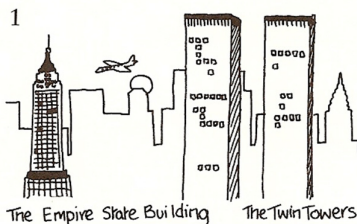
1	2	3
+ -er	double letter + -er	-y + -ier
high – higher kind – kinder	big – <u>bigg</u> er	pretty – prettier

4	5
more	irregular
precious – more precious	far – further

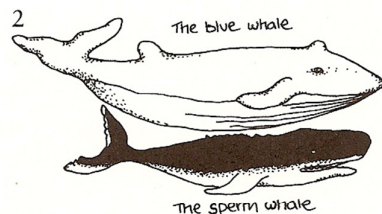
Comparing 3

as ... as

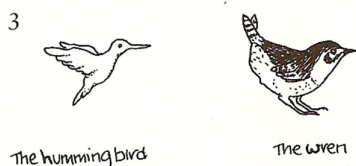
A Look at the picture and complete the sentence using *as ... as*.



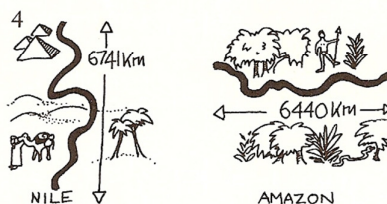
The Empire State Building and the Twin Towers are the highest buildings in New York, but the Empire State Building isn't as tall as the Twin Towers.



The blue whale and the sperm whale are both famous for being big, but _____



The wren and the hummingbird are very small birds, but _____



The Nile and the Amazon are the world's longest rivers, but _____

9FE B Read this text about two brothers. Use the adjective in brackets to complete each space. Sometimes you need to use a comparative (-er, more ... than, as ... as), and sometimes you don't need to change the adjective.

Children will naturally compare themselves with their brothers and sisters, and this can sometimes be a (dangerous) dangerous thing. There were two brothers called Robin and Rufus. They were both 1 (good) _____ at playing football, but Robin wasn't quite 2 (good) _____ Rufus, so Robin stopped playing football completely.

Robin was three years 3 (young) _____ Rufus, but everyone thought he was the same age because he was nearly 4 (tall) _____ his brother. Of course Rufus was three years ahead of Robin at school because he was three years 5 (old) _____, but Robin decided that it was because Rufus was 6 (intelligent) _____ him.

Robin began to get very depressed because Rufus was 7 (strong) _____, 8 (confident) _____, and 9 (good) _____ him at everything. After a while he just stopped trying.



Comparing 4

as ... as

11

A Read the sentences and put the correct names under the pictures.

- 1 Frank is older than Peter, but he isn't as old as Vince. Vince isn't as short as Peter, but he's shorter than Frank.



a _____ b _____ c _____

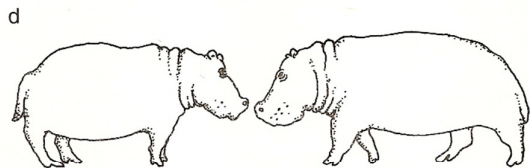
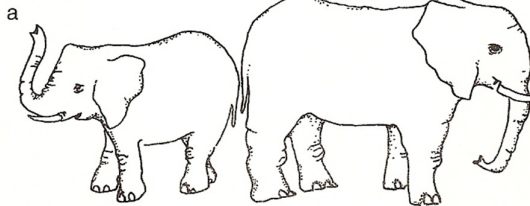
- 2 The Egyptian vase is not as tall as either the Greek or the Chinese vases, while the longer neck of the Chinese vase makes it more attractive than the others.



a _____ b _____ c _____

B Match each sentence with the correct picture.

- 1 The animal on the left isn't as small as the one on the right.
- 2 The animal on the left isn't as big as the one on the right.
- 3 The animal on the left is just as small as the one on the right.
- 4 The animal on the left isn't quite as big as the one on the right.



C Join the phrases to make six common English expressions.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 She ran as fast | a) as the wind. |
| 2 She's as strong | b) as rock. |
| 3 He's as quiet | c) as a mouse. |
| 4 This sweet is as hard | d) as a horse. |
| 5 She's as brave as | e) the hills. |
| 6 It's as old as | f) a lion. |

ANSWER KEY

8 Comparing 1

A

- 1 Diamonds are more precious than pearls.
- 2 A mountain is bigger than a hill.
- 3 People are more intelligent than monkeys.
- 4 Phoning is easier than writing a letter.
- 5 Chocolate is sweeter than fruit.
- 6 A lion is more dangerous than a cat.

B

- 1 ... more junior.
- 2 ... hotter.
- 3 ... colder.
- 4 ... better.
- 5 ... worse.
- 6 ... more expensive.
- 7 ... cheaper.
- 8 ... bigger.
- 9 ... smaller.

9 Comparing 2

- 1 cheaper, longer, shorter
- 2 flatter, sadder, thinner, wetter
- 3 noisier, funnier, lazier, easier
- 4 more bored, more pleased, more solid, more comfortable, more fragile, more expensive, more surprising, more intelligent, more dangerous
- 5 better (good), worse (bad)

10 Comparing 3

A

- 1 ... the Empire State Building isn't as tall as the Twin Towers.
- 2 ... the sperm whale isn't as big as the blue whale.
- 3 ... the wren isn't as small as the hummingbird.
- 4 ... the Amazon isn't as long as the Nile.

B

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1 good | 6 more intelligent than |
| 2 as good as | 7 stronger |
| 3 younger | 8 more confident |
| 4 as tall as | 9 better than |
| 5 older | |

11 Comparing 4

A

- 1 a Peter b Frank c Vince
- 2 a Greek b Chinese c Egyptian

B

- 1b 2a 3c 4d

C

- 1a 2d 3c 4b 5f 6e